

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC	DOCKET NO. WRU-03-53-975
--	--------------------------

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR WAIVER

(Issued September 19, 2003)

On August 18, 2003, Federated Rural Electric (Federated) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for waiver of 199 IAC 20.18(8), which applies to electric utilities with fewer than 50,000 customers. Rule 20-18(8) require those electric utilities to maintain, among other things, certain outage information and to adopt and file a reliability plan. No objections to the request for waiver were filed.

In support of its request, Federated stated that it primarily does business in the state of Minnesota and that it has only 49 members in Iowa. Federated has 5,000 members in Minnesota. Federated also noted that it is required to provide reliability information pursuant to Minnesota statutes and rules and Federated offered to file a copy of such information with the Board. The information compiled for Minnesota includes the Iowa customers. Federated argued that complying with the Iowa rules would impose an unreasonable burden on its members.

Based on the information provided by Federated, application of the rules would pose an undue hardship on Federated without any substantial corresponding

benefit. The small number of customers in Iowa makes the data maintenance and reporting requirements burdensome, particularly when Federated states that it will file with the Board the reliability information required by Minnesota, which will contain much of the information required by the Iowa rules. The standards contained in 199 IAC 1.3 have been met, and the Board will grant the waiver and require Federated to file with the Board all reliability information required to be filed in Minnesota.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for waiver of 199 IAC 20.18(8) filed by Federated Rural Electric on August 18, 2003, is granted.
2. Federated shall promptly file with the Board on an ongoing basis any reliability information required to be filed by the state of Minnesota.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 19th day of September, 2003.